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Chief, Producers Equipment Branch

21 July 1959

Deputy Chief, Industrial Division

Project 32.2119, Recent Developments of the Motor Vehicle  
Industry of the USSR

1. This project accomplishes its objectives efficiently and methodically. It is clearly and simply written. Although emphasis is confined to production, trade recently has been treated in a separate paper. I therefore believe that publication as an RI report will make a useful contribution to the intelligence community.

2. Because the word "Recent" has a more current meaning in intelligence research than the meaning used in this project and because the study treats only of selective aspects of the industry, I recommend that the title be changed to: "Trends in the Production of Soviet Motor Vehicles."

3. To assist the reader in evaluating the position of the industry, I suggest that a brief Introduction be added to the project which should provide the following information:

a. Discussion of the overall growth of automotive output in the period, to be based on a graph showing as separate time series, production of trucks, passenger cars, buses, and total motor vehicles, 1946-58 with projections to 1965.

b. A comparison of the average annual rates of growth of automotive production by planning periods with the average annual rates for gross industrial production (e.g., 1946-50, 1951-55, 1955-58, and 1959-65), also based on a graphic, such as comparative bar charts.

c. A comparison of 1958 Soviet motor vehicle output with the average US output over the last 3 years, also supported by an appropriate graphic.

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4. I shall be happy to discuss with you and [redacted] these suggestions, together with the minor comments attached to this memorandum.

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[redacted]

Attachment

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Notes on Project 32.2119

P. 13, last para. and Table 9

ZIM (GAZ-12) identified as 6 passenger in text and 7 passenger in Table 9.

P. 15, Note

Should not reference be to Table 5 instead of Table 4?

P. 16, Note

Tables 4 and 6?

Add Graphics

Such as time series 1946-58, 65, showing total trucks, passenger cars, buses, and grand total.

Table 4, Col. 1, 1951 truck total

Shouldn't it be 229.8 instead of 229.3<sup>4</sup>? of Project 32.62, Table 1.

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